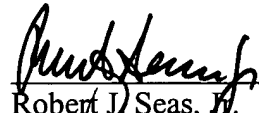


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
U.S. Appln. Based on PCT/FR98/02004

**REMARKS**

The foregoing amendments are made in order to remove multiple dependencies and avoid the Government surcharge. Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 20, 2000

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